

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00
DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAL-01 FEA-01 /138 W

----- 111666 /61

R 101453Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8292
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CASABLANCA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USEC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 9336

FROM US DEL ICNAF (REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE COPENHAGEN

FOR OES/OFA

DEPT PASS COMMERCE, NOAA/WALLACE, NMFS/ BLONDIN

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, NEAFC, UK, EC, IC, PO

SUBJECT: SOME INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS DURING ICNAF, TENERIFE MEETING

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1. THE FOLLOWING GENERAL INTERST COMMENTS WERE OBTAINED

DURING CURRENT MEETINGS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AS NOTED.

2. THE ICELANDIC DELEGATE, MR. ASGEIRSSON, INDICATED THE TOTAL COD CATCH DURING 1976 IN ICELANDIC WATERS WILL BE ABOUT 340,00 TONS. DURING RFS'S VISIT TO REYKJAVIK IN MAY 1976. ICELANDIC SCIENTISTS TOLD HIM THEY HAD RECOMMENDED A 1976 COD TAC OF 23,000 TONS. THE 100,000 TONS PLUS BY WHICH THIS AMOUNT WAS EXCEEDED WAS DUE TO PARTIALLY TO ICELAND'S OWN FISHING EFFORT (280,000 T.) BUT ALSO WAS DUE TO FOREIGN FLEET FISHING EFFORTS, NOTABLY BY THE U.K.

3. ICELANDIC SCIENTISTS RECENTLY SUBMITTED COD TAC'S FOR BOTH 1977 AND 1978 TO THEIR GOVERNMENT; THE TAC THEY DECIDED ON WAS 275,000T. HOWEVER, AS THIS IS THE MINIMUM AMOUNT NECESSARY FOR ICELAND'S OWN FISHERY ANY FOREIGN FISHING EFFORT WILL EXCEED THE RECOMMENDED TAC. MR. ASGEIRSSON SAID THE COD CATCH BY THE FOREIGN FLEET, LESS THE U.K. CATCH, IS NOW AROUND 15,000 T./YEAR. WHICH THE GOI CAN ACCEPT. HOWEVER, HE WAS NOT ENCOURAGING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE U.K. BEING ABLE TO CONTINUE THEIR FISHERY, PARTICULARLY WHEN THE ONLY FISHERY RESOURCE HIS FLEET IS INTERESTED IN U.K. WATERS, HERRING, AND HERRING APPEARS TO BE HEADED FOR A ZERO TAC IN 1977. IN 1976 ICELAND'S NORTH SEA HERRING QUOTA WAS 9,300 T.

4. ONE OF THE EC OBSERVERS, DR. KOERS, SAID THAT EC NEGOTIATOR GUNLACH WILL BE IN REYKJAVIK ON DECEMBER 16-17 TO BEGIN THE FIRST FORMAL ICELANDIC/EC FISHERIES NEGOTIATING SESSION. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THE EC WILL INITIATE A ZERO QUOTA FOR DIRECTED HERRING FISH IN THE NORTH SEA. HE WAS AWARE OF ICELAND'S PROJECTED COD TAC'S AND WAS NOT TOO OPTIMISTIC ABOUT WHAT QUOTAS IN ICELAND'S WATERS THE EC MIGHT OBTAIN.

5. WHEN DR. KOERS WAS QUESTIONED ABOUT THE PUBLISHED EC INTENT TO ELIMINATE EASTERN BLOC FISHING EFFORT IN EC WATERS WITHIN FIVE YEARS HE SAID THAT CURRENT THINKING IN THE EC IS THAT THIS FIGURE COULD BE RE-CONFIDENTIAL

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DUCED AND THAT ALL EASTERN BLOC FLEETS SHOULD BE OUT WITH IN TWO OR THREE YEARS.

6. DR. KOERS INDICATED MILITARY OFFICIALS WITHIN THE EC COUNTRIES WERE EXERTING PRESSURES TO US THE FISHERY ZONE EXTENSION TO FORCE EASTERN BLOC VESSELS OUT OF THE EC WATERS. THIS MOVE IS MAKING SOME OF THE EC MEMBERS APPREHENSIVE AS THEY FEAR RETALIATORY

MEASURES MIGHT BE INITIATED. FOR EXAMPLE, HE CITED THAT FRG HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT CONFRONTATIONS MIGHT OCCUR IN BERLIN.

7. THE POLISH DELEGATE MR. SONTA, SAID THAT POLAND DESPITE THEIR PROTESTATIONS AT THE RECENT NEAFC LONDON MEETING, WILL HAVE TTO MEET AND NEGOTIATE A BILATERAL TREATY WITH THE EC. APPARENLTLY THE MOVE TO HAVE COMECON NEGOTIATE FOR ITS MEMBERS WITH THE EC IS BEING DROPPED BECAUSE THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS AARE NOT COMPATIBLE. ALTHOUGH EARLIER THE EC HAD INDICATED ITS INTENTION TO NEGOTIATE INDIVIDUAL BILATERAL TREATIES. MR MR. SONTA SAID THAT ALTHOUGH POLISH LANDINGS FROM THE NORTH SEA HAVE DECLINED TO ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL POLISH FISH LANDINGS IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO TRY TO MAINTAIN ALL FISHERY EFFORT WHEREVER POSSIBLE. STABLER

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